

**WEST LAFAYETTE TRAFFIC COMMISSION**  
**WEST LAFAYETTE CITY BUILDING**  
**WEST LAFAYETTE, INDIANA**

**TIME:** 5:00 pm, Tuesday, September 15, 2009

**PLACE:** Lower Level Conference Room

<b>PRESENT:</b>	Nick DeBoer	David Downey	Larry Preo
	Dave Buck	Jim Knapp	Kumares Sinha
	Vicki Burch	Chris Leroux	Boudewijn van Gelder
	Eric Chin	Karen O'Farrell	Larry Wood
	John Cox		

<b>VISITORS:</b>	Beth Cook	Wendy Field	Sean Strange
	Lyle Cunningham	Brandon Fulk	

**ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:**

Chairman Sinha called the meeting to order and determined there was a quorum. Ms. Burch made a motion to approve the July minutes. Mr. van Gelder seconded and the minutes were approved as written.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**07-09 Cumberland Avenue Reconstruction**

Brandon Fulk and Sean Strange, both from The Schneider Corporation, brought to the commission renderings of the Cumberland Avenue Reconstruction Project, Phase 1. Mr. Fulk reminded the commission that the city has been working on the Cumberland Avenue Reconstruction project since 2007 and that there has been a lot of community input with regard to the project's challenges and goals. Due to budget constraints, the project has been divided into three phases. The first phase is the section of Cumberland between US 52 and Yeager Road.

The first phase of Cumberland will be reconstructed as a single lane, divided road. A bus pull-off has been added in front of Salem Courthouse Apartments, on-street parking has been removed, and a 10' trail has been planned to run along north side of the road. A roundabout will be installed at the intersection of Cumberland and Kent. Mr. Fulk stated that this had unanimous support from the Community Planning Committee. The roundabout is designed to be a traffic calming device intended to get vehicles down to a reasonable speed. It was also designed in such a way as to discourage semi tractor/trailer usage. Mr. Strange stated that an 18-wheel (WD 50) is the largest vehicle, by design, that can navigate this roundabout. Fire trucks and buses will be fine since they have a shorter wheel base and a smaller turning radius.

Mr. Buck stated that the city is working with INDOT to make improvements to the pedestrian crossing at US 52 and Cumberland. Mr. Buck is working to add new crosswalks, a pedestrian refuge and countdown pedestrian signals. Mr. van Gelder stated that we may also want to request that INDOT consider a "no turn on red" restriction on vehicles coming from eastbound Cumberland onto southbound US 52. Vehicles turning onto US 52 often do not look for pedestrians crossing. Mr. Buck

stated that INDOT recognizes that it has issues at this intersection, and he is hopeful they will assist the city with improvements at this location.

Mr. Buck stated that it is likely the city will close Cumberland from US 52 to the Salem Courthouse entrance and crossover while the roundabout is being built. Closing this section of Cumberland will allow for construction to move quickly (60-75 days) and save on construction costs. The detour routes will be US 52 and Win Hentschel via Yeager Road. The remainder of the project will be done one side at a time.

#### **08-05 Mid-Block Crossings**

Chairman Sinha stated he would like to commend the Purdue and West Lafayette police departments for their work on the pedestrian safety campaign. Chairman Sinha stated he had received a lot of positive comments. Chief Cox stated that his officers had issued about 100 warnings and five citations. Education will be ongoing with a strong push each semester.

#### **08-09 Idling Buses**

Chairman Sinha stated that he was approached by a University Place resident requesting that the city consider limiting the amount of time buses may idle. Her request is due to health and environmental concerns related to exhaust from idling diesel buses. Mr. Buck stated that he had invited Citybus to the meeting, but they were unable to attend. Chairman Sinha asked that Mr. Buck contact Citybus and request that they voluntarily limit the length of time their buses idle.

#### **08-12 Speed Limit Russell/Waldron/University Island**

Chief Cox requested the commission renew their discussion about a reduced speed limit in the area of University and Russell. Chief Cox would like the commission to consider lowering the speed limit from 30mph to 25mph. Chairman Sinha asked if there was a speed limit sign posted in this area now. Chairman Sinha suggested we make sure a 30mph speed limit sign was posted.

#### **09-12 Emergency Response Complaint, Tecumseh Park Court**

Mr. Buck stated that he had reviewed this complaint with Captain Leroux and it appears to have been a unique situation which does not warrant a permanent change at this time. The emergency response occurred during church time, which meant the area was heavily parked. The fire truck responded to the call first and blocked the street. Even if parking restrictions were added where possible, the same thing could happen again since the streets are local residential streets and a fire truck is quite large. Captain Leroux has talked to police and fire to make sure that an ambulance can get to where it needs to be during an emergency call.

#### **09-14 High School Traffic**

Ms. Siciliano stated she had received an email regarding pedestrian concerns southwest of the high school. There are four points of concern, most relating to a lack of sidewalks in the area surrounding the high school. Mr. Buck stated that the Safe Routes to School program is looking into pedestrian concerns in this area and the city will add emphasis to this location for adding new sidewalks.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **09-15 Stop Sign Request, Soldiers Home Road and CR 75**

Mr. Buck received a request from a citizen to consider making the intersection of Soldiers Home Road and CR 75 a 3-way stop. Currently there is a stop on CR 75. Mr. Buck will pull crashes from this location and report back to the commission.

**09-16 Stop Sign Request, Woodland and Carrollton**

Mr. Buck has received a request from a citizen to add a stop sign to the intersection of Woodland and Carrollton. Currently, there is a yield on Woodland. Mr. Buck will make a recommendation and report back to the commission at a future meeting.

**09-17 Speed Hump Request, Park Ridge Drive**

Mr. Buck has received a request from a citizen to add a speed hump to Park Ridge Drive. The citizen's concern is that Park Ridge is used as a cut-through by Salisbury traffic. Mr. Buck stated the Engineer's office is taking speed counts on Park Ridge and will report back to the commission with a recommendation.

**09-18 No Sight Distance, Wiggins and River Road**

Chairman Sinha brought to the commission a concern about a "blind-spot" at the intersection of Wiggins and River Road (commonly known as "the canyon"). Vehicles driving down the canyon and turning left onto River Road have no sight distance. This is of particular concern with regard to emergency vehicles responding to calls.

**09-19 Request 4-way Stop, Williams and Chauncey**

Mr. DeBoer brought to the commission a request to consider a 4-way stop at the intersection of Williams and Chauncey. It is currently a 2-way stop. Mr. DeBoer is concerned with the sight distance at this intersection. The Engineering department will review the intersection and future projects at this location.

**09-20 Request Crash Study, Soldiers Home Road at the "S" Curve**

Mr. Downey stated he received a concern from a citizen requesting we investigate the crash history on Soldiers Home Road north of Kalberer on the "S" curve. According to the citizen there have been several crashes in the last six months. Mr. Buck will request crash history from this site and report back to the commission.

**NEXT MEETING:** 5:00 pm, Tuesday, November 17, 2009

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "David M. Buck". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "David" and last name "Buck" being the most prominent parts.

David M. Buck, P.E.  
City Engineer

DMB/wf